

City of Rockville Environment Commission
Watersheds Committee (WC) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday August 16, 2011
Blue Crab, Rockville City Hall
7:15 pm

Meeting Attendance: Julie Palakovich-Carr, Anne Goodman, Steve Cardon, Nancy Laurson, Environmental Management staff member Amanda Matheny

1. Environment Commission (EC) Report:

- Julie Palakovich-Carr reported:
 - Three new commissioners will be voted in within the coming weeks. The Watersheds Committee will not have additional commissioners added to the group at this time.
 - The fall retreat for the Environment Commission will be held on October 15. The focus of the retreat is to gather the commissioners, brainstorm goals etc for the upcoming year. More details to come.

2. Environmental Mgmt. Division Report:

- Amanda Matheny reported:
 - Amanda attended the 2011 Maryland Streams Symposium and Mid-Atlantic Volunteer Monitoring Conference in Carroll County Maryland. A lot of wonderful ideas, projects, and tools were presented at the conference, many of which could be added to Rockville's program. Ideas include addition of bacteria and nutrient monitoring, and the potential of working more closely with the Stream Waders program. More work will need to be conducted to determine the feasibility of these changes.

3. Discussion: Release of Adopt a Stream sites

In an effort to promote more regular cleanups of adopted stream segments, site leaders of adopted segments that did not have reported cleanups within the last year were contacted and asked if they were still interested in continuing with the program, or if they would kindly release their segment so that another group could adopt the section. Upon follow-up with these groups it was found that many were completing the regular cleanups, but were not reporting back to the City. The reporting procedures were reviewed with the leaders of these groups to help remind them of the need for this data.

A few sites have been made available as a result of this contact and the Watersheds Committee will plan on promoting adoption of these sites over the next few months. A few options discussed for reaching out directly to specific communities and neighborhoods were the use of listserves, blogs, contacting volunteers of other environmental programs as well as contacting local Boy and Girl Scout groups.

4. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

5. Next Steps:

Amanda to:

- Visit newly available sites to get a feel for access and potential trash drop off locations.
- Contact local listserves and HOAs to promote adoption of the available stream sites.

Julie to:

- Contact local Boy and Girl Scout troop groups to promote adoption of the available stream sites.

Group to:

- Brainstorm locations in the city where it might be beneficial to monitor for nutrients and/or bacteria.

The next Watersheds Committee meeting is scheduled for
**Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 7:15 pm in the Blue Crab conference room at
Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.**